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September 26, 2002 Contact: Kevin Hardy

Board of Regents Approves FY 2002-2003 Performance And Quality Improvement Allocations

Baton Rouge: The Louisiana Board of Regents has approved FY 2002-03 performance and quality improvement funding allocations for the state's institution's of postsecondary education. This distribution signals an increased commitment by Regents to actively involve system management boards in setting budgetary priorities for their campuses.

Earlier this year, the Louisiana Legislature appropriated \$14,925,000 in recurring and capital outlay funds to improve the performance and quality of Louisiana's colleges and universities. The funds are targeted to address campus priorities as well as statewide initiatives such as teacher education reform and implementation of the state's Master Plan for Public Postsecondary Education.

At yesterday's meeting Regents approved the various systems' campus-by-campus funding allocation plans, having determined that each represented appropriate performance funding priorities that were consistent with the Master Plan.

Allocation of the new resources is tied to campus performance in such areas as graduation rates, retention rates and demonstrated progress toward an appropriate student mix. Each system governing body - the LSU Board of Supervisors, the Southern University Board of Supervisors, the University of Louisiana System Board, and the Louisiana Community and Technical College System Board - was charged with formulating its own campus allocation plan according to the performance guidelines and submitting those plans for Board of Regents approval.

"The allocation process allows system boards to take an active role in setting budget priorities and guiding their institutions toward educational excellence. In turn, it is incumbent upon the individual institutions to make a solid case for their priorities and to demonstrate verifiable results," said Louisiana Commissioner of Higher Education Joe Savoie. "We are funding institutional improvements that meet the public expectations of quality and accountability. That way we are rewarding campuses for doing the right thing and doing things right."

Click here to see the campus-by-campus allocation breakdown.